



# KING'S CHAPEL

---

## Daily Devotional - Proverbs Study

Week 2 - Day 4

### Approaching God

**Psalm 94:19** - *When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.*

**Prayer:** "I need your consolations, O God, so that I will see my life held together by the one who created this world and is redeeming it, not perpetually victimized by others who try to take advantage of others. Make me strong in Jesus Christ. Amen."

### Bible Reading, Study & Meditation - Proverbs 4:10-19

**Passage Introduction: A Father's Appeal #6 - Two Ways to Live** - This passage locates us at a fork in the road, with two paths before us. "The path of the wicked" (v. 14) leads away from the Father and into compulsive cravings. On the other hand "The path of the righteous" may be, for now, only a glimmer of dawn; but the glory of full day is coming (2 Cor. 3:18; Phil. 1:6; Rev. 22:5). Walking on a path always takes you somewhere. Life is likened to a path because every action takes you somewhere. That is, the act changes you, making it easier for you to do it again. Eventually it becomes so natural to be cruel and selfish that you cannot rest unless you are doing it. "Sow a thought, reap an action; sow an action, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny."

### Proverbs 4:10-19 - ESV

**10** Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many. **11** I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness. **12** When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble. **13** Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life. **14** Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil. **15** Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on. **16** For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong; they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble. **17** For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence. **18** But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. **19** The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.

**Start with Engaging the Text:** Take a few minutes to highlight, circle, or underline key words. What words or ideas are repeated, related, compared, contrasted? What key themes stand out to you?

## Daily Study Questions

“Modern people think feelings determine what we do and that it is hypocritical to act loving if they don’t feel loving. Proverbs, however, tells us that our actions shape our feelings. So if you don’t feel love for someone, don’t let that stop you. Do the actions of love, and often the feelings follow. When Jesus tells us to love our opponents (Matthew 5:43–48), he does not mean to work up warm feelings. He is telling us to seek our opponents’ good, even at a sacrifice. So start doing the actions of love—take that path—and you will see your heart changing.”

Tim Keller. *God's Wisdom for Navigating Life*

- Think of one hard-to-love person in your life. What practical things could you do to begin to love them better?
- What 1 or 2 principles do you observe in this section?
- When in your life or the life of someone else have you seen this observation illustrated?
- How can you put this observation or principle into practice?
- Lastly, try to summarize your thoughts by rewriting your main ideas and observations into your own words in a sentence or two.

## Close in Prayer:

*Lord, the feelings of my heart are so unruly, but teach me how to exhort my heart rather than simply listening to it (Psalms 42:5, 103:1–5). And help me in my resolve to also take charge of it by loving and obeying what you command. Amen.*